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The duty of the employer to-day is plain, to take wise forward steps and do his share in the evolution of modern industry." "The gospel and the law which should be vigorously declared to employers of labor as a class is not that the whole state of things which renders them possible is to be abolished, and that their great ability for business is henceforth to count for nothing: but rather that their present individualism is on a low plane; that they do not steadily show themselves such leaders as they might well be; that they fail to rise to the level of their opportunity; and that their wealth has grown faster than their disposition or ability to make the best use of it."

EDWARD W. BEMIS.

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E. R. L. GOULD, PH. D., *The Social Condition of Labor.* Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1893. 8vo., pp. 42.

DR. GOULD is the well-known assistant of Mr. Carroll D. Wright in the Department of Labor, and in this monograph gives us some of the results of the study which that department has been making as to the cost of production of certain manufactured articles. The investigation was entered upon at the request of the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, but we are assured, and those who have studied the returns are convinced, that the work has been non-partisan and unbiased by political considerations.

The facts presented in the present essay go to prove the generally-accepted theory that the laborer is better paid and also better-housed clothed and fed in America than in Europe. At the same time the author denies that European labor is, as a rule, worthy of the characterization "pauper." The differences between American and European labor are not so striking as the majority of people have supposed, but they do exist, and they are in the direction of greater general prosperity for the former. They are worthy of very minute study, and this they cannot be said to have received in the book before us, which is merely suggestive. Still, the work is by no means of small value, for in it the author has not only suggested a number of interesting points, but in so doing has indicated several paths for future investigations that may be expected to render rich returns to the student who shall follow them.

Perhaps the most interesting suggestion is the one brought out in connection with Table VIII., p. 34. Here are presented the facts for

the principal foreign countries, and for the various nationalities in this country, making possible a comparison of the immigrants of a given nationality with their brothers at home or with the Americans or other immigrants working beside them in this country. The table shows the average number in family, the number owning homes, the number of rooms per family, the proportion of families maintained by the husband alone, the earnings of the husband, the total income of family, and the annual expenditure per family (in amounts and percentages) for rent, food, clothing, books, etc., alcoholic drinks, tobacco and "other expenses." These figures prove that while American wages and the American standard of living are higher than the European, this high standard is not maintained by the American-born alone. On the contrary, both the British and the Germans, who are considerably below him in their native lands, excel him in his own home. The figures for "total earnings," although they would not in themselves be decisive, will suffice as an illustration, since they represent the proportion very well.

AVERAGE TOTAL YEARLY EARNINGS OF THE FAMILY.<sup>1</sup>

Americans,	-	-	-	-	-	\$583.68
British in Great Britain,	-	-	-	-	-	522.08
British in the United States,	-	-	-	-	-	692.01
Germans in Germany,	-	-	-	-	-	345.03
Germans in the United States,	-	-	-	-	-	635.30

MR. Francis A. Walker's article on Immigration, in an early number of the *Yale Review*,<sup>2</sup> will have an added interest in the light of these and similar figures.

The author has depended largely on the vividness of his tables, and has not added much textual comment. Not all would be safe in doing this, but Dr. Gould's experience as a practical statistician has enabled him to put his tables in excellent form. It is unfortunate that we have to depend so largely upon averages, against which so much has of late been said; but the liabilities to error are not great in this case, on account of the nature of the few industries involved; and not only are they guarded against with considerable precaution, but, to make assurance doubly sure, they are carefully pointed out to the reader.

FRANK R. HATHAWAY.

<sup>1</sup> In specified industries.

<sup>2</sup> *Yale Review*, vol. i. p. 125.